KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) Some contractors have reported that they have received threats relating to extortion, etc. However, the works are in progress.

(d) Ministry has requested the concerned authority to provide adequate safety measures.

Lack of facilities on National Highway No. 8

4645. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway No.8 between Delhi and Jaipur is more prone towards accident due to lack of facilities; and

(b) what steps have been taken to identify the deficiency in road facilities on NH-8 and make it safe and accident free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) There have been no reported accidents due to lack of facilities on National Highway No.8 between Delhi and Jaipur which has been four-laned and is in good traffic-worthy condition.

(b) to enhance safety, various facilities have been provided for the users of this Highway, which include improved intersection layout, service roads, signs markings, safety barriers, bus bays and truck parkings. Besides, Highway Traffic Management System has been provided in the stretch between Kotputli and Amer, with emergency caD boxes, CCTV, variable message signs, mobile communications, ambulance, crane and highway patrol.

Upgradation of Bhuj-Khavada-lndia Bridge-Dharamshala State Highway

4646. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD "i RANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to upgrade the Bhuj-Khavada-lndia Bridge-Dharamshala State Highway into National Highway is being considered from defence point of view; and